$518, 265$ \

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(54) Title: ROBUST SIGNATURE FOR SIGNAL AUTHENTICATION
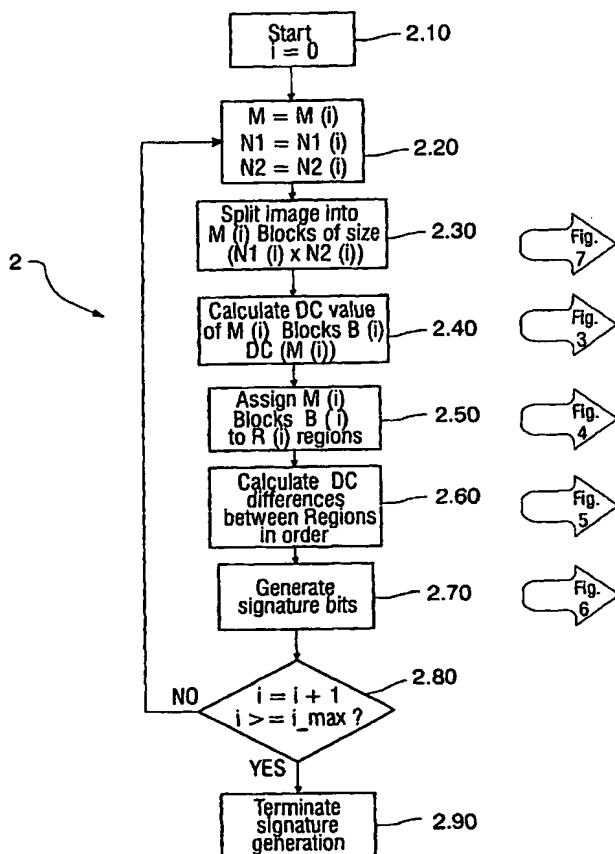
(57) Abstract: A method, system and computer readable medium for the authenticating of an audio-visual signal, such as digital images or video comprising the generation of a robust image signature with variable size. In a preferred embodiment DC-values of blocks of a digital image are calculated and areas with similar DC-values are merged into regions. The signature is based on said regions and of variable length, depending on the desired localisation ability or an allowable signature length. The resulting signature bits are robust to compression and other allowable image operations. The hierarchical solution provides both robustness and tampering localisation.

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